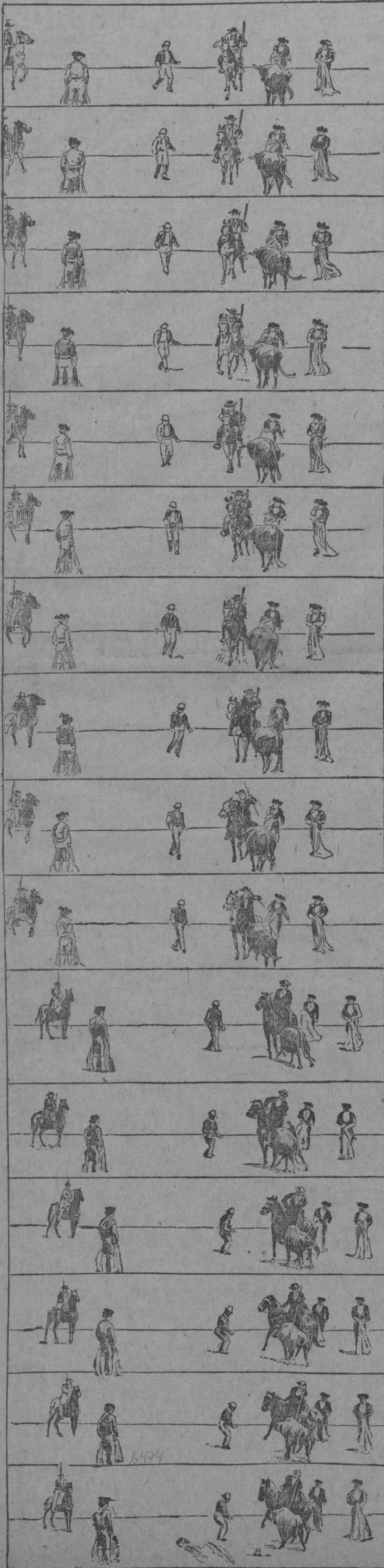


INSTANTANEOUS PHOTOGRAPHS OF A BULL FIGHT.

Showing the Mad Rush of the Bull; the Plunging of the Bull's Horns into the Horse's Side; the Horse Lifted into the Air on the Bull's Horns; the Mounted Picador Wounding the Bull with His Lance, and the Retreat of the Bull from the Dying Horse.



The bull fight, the national sport of Spain, Mexico and some of the South American republics, is the most cruel of all sports. It is, too, the most intensely thrilling of any contest human genius has ever devised—brutally thrilling, because the lives of the bull, the trembling horses and the dozen or more men in the arena are at stake.

Here is a series of instantaneous pictures of a terrific fight between a picador and a prize Atenco bull. This bull fight took place in the Tacubaya ring, outside the City of Mexico, on March 25, of this year.

Three bulls and three horses were then killed. The fight was full of thrilling incidents.

Antonio Fernandez, the picador on horseback, is one of the most expert bull fighters in Mexico. He says that the struggle here shown was one of the most dangerous he ever went through. Fernandez narrowly escaped with his life.

At the outset of the fight you see the mounted picador approach the bull, lance in hand. The bull angrily swishes his tail, and lowers his head as he makes a rush toward the horse.

At this instant the picador lowers his sharp-pointed lance to receive the force of the bull's onset. As it enters his side he angrily swishes his tail and makes a vicious lunge with his needle-pointed horns.

Horse and bull come together with a clash. The lance enters the flesh of the bull, while his horns penetrate the left shoulder of the horse.

The force of this impact was terrific, as is shown by the pictures. The entire fore part of the horse is raised from the ground by the plunge of the now enraged animal.

The bull throws all his weight against the lance. He seeks to bury his horns in the body of the horse.

During all this time the picador endeavors to keep the mad, denuded bull at bay. The latter wishes to come to closer quarters. He strikes wildly with his horns, always keeping his head down.

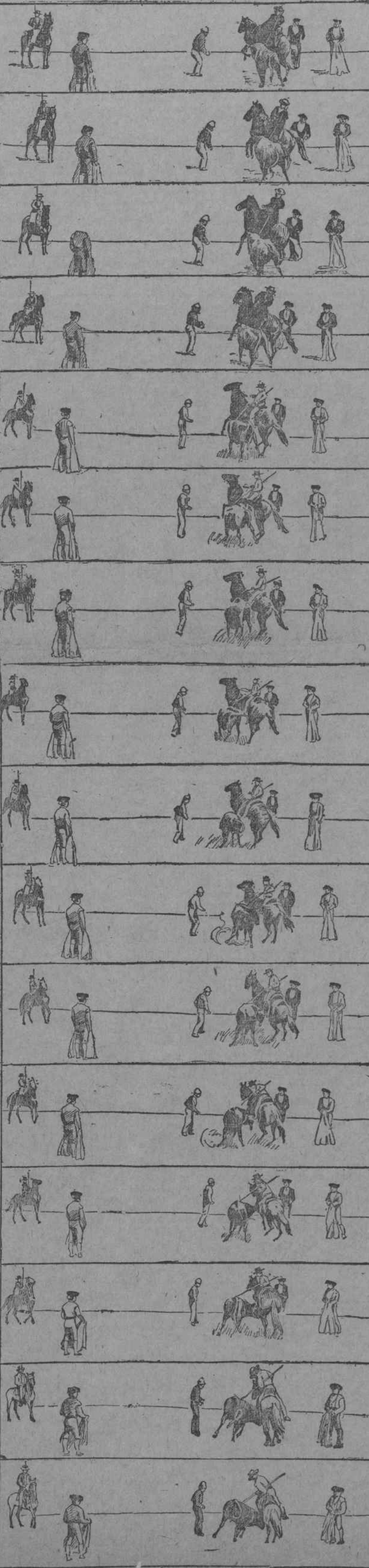
The horse rears and plunges frantically. But the power of this prize bull is such that he steadily pushes his antagonist upward.

Those who excitedly watched the struggle say that the bull at most threw the horse with his rider over backward. The pictures show a feat which even the most fiery of the prize Mexican bulls rarely accomplish.

Having rushed upon the horse and lifted him up on his hind legs, it will be seen that the bull ran around more than half a circle, shoving both the horse and his rider as he went. The horse ridden by Fernandez, and which subsequently died from the wounds received in this encounter, turned on his hind legs as the bull, pressing all his weight into his shoulders, shoved him around helplessly.

The aim of the bull was to tear the horse open. The expert picador, however, defeated this immediate object by his skillful play with his lance.

The picador was almost raised out of his saddle as he held the lance. If it had been stuck in the neck of the bull, near the head, he would have been easily unhorsed.



It was impossible for the picador in this fight to keep the long, sharpened horns of the bull away from the horse and the latter was fearfully gored on his left shoulder. Falling in his attempt to overthrow both horse and rider, the bull, mortally wounded, rushed away to die.

During the whole of the rest of the proceedings in the Tacubaya ring there was no incident so dramatic and thrilling as this which imperiled the life of Mexico's most popular picador. Another picador, Jose Tega by name, stood ready at the time, but took no part in the struggle.

Even such a terrific wound as this only served to bring out all the fighting qualities of the bull, as the pictures show. If he had drawn back when he felt the cruel lance he could have escaped for the time. But it will be seen that he lunged and plunged, kicking up the ground, lashing his tail and striking with his horns as he sought to get in on horse and rider.

This was the first private bull fight to occur in Mexico. It was arranged by Mr. Gray Latham for the purpose of taking the Eidoscope pictures now being shown on a screen at the Olympia and at the St. James Hotel in this city.

United States Minister Ransom, Consul-General Crittenden, with Mrs. Crittenden and many other Americans in Mexico at the time, were among the invited guests present at this fight. Governor-General Pedro Rincon, the Governor of the federal district of Mexico, was also present.

The bulls and the bull fighters were secured for the Eidoscope people by Pedro Noriega, the most prominent impresario in Mexico. A private bull fight is expensive, as this exhibition cost over \$4,000, some of the star fighters present receiving as high as \$500. The Atenco bulls cost \$100 each.

Of course, the pictures here shown are but a small fraction of the immense number of photographs taken of even this brief incident in the bull fight. They were cut from the film a foot or more apart. Sometimes eight or ten pictures were taken out at a time without any of the action being lost.

More than 50,000 pictures were taken by the Eidoscope during the two and one-half hours while the bull fight lasted. This wonderful invention, which afterward projects the pictures on a screen so fast that only the movements of the actors are seen, can take 16 pictures per second.

It can keep that up hour after hour, thus taking photographs at the rate of 180,000 per hour. The original pictures are on a continuous strip of film, each being three-quarters of an inch deep and about an inch and a half in width.

For exhibition purposes the film is flashed across a magnifying glass that enlarges the image thrown on a screen. The time maintained is the same both at the exhibition and during the actual occurrence, the same number of pictures per minute being unrolled.

The strip from which the 48 pictures shown herewith were taken was about 100 feet in length. More than a mile of gelatine film was used in taking all the bull fight pictures, and the camera was worked by a steam engine.

